

**Minutes**  
**STATE SOIL CONSERVATION BOARD (SSCB) MEETING**  
**9:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 8, 2008**  
**Indiana State Department of Agriculture**  
**Conference Room B**  
**101 West Ohio Street, Suite 1200**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46204**

**Attended**

Nola Gentry  
Bob Eddleman  
Warren Baird  
Bill Mann  
Larry Clemens  
Jim Cherry

**Others in Attendance**

Tammy Lawson-ISDA  
Jerod Chew-ISDA  
Amy Eizinger-ISDA  
Cris Goode-ISDA  
Jennifer Boyle-IASWCD  
Randy Braun-IDEM

**Absent**

Gary Conant

**I. 9:04 AM: Call to Order**

**II. Draft Minutes of June 2008**

*Bob Eddleman moved to approve the minutes as presented. Bill Mann seconded and the motion carried.*

**III. Leadership Development**

**A. District Requests – Cris Goode**

**Steuben County**

Steuben County requests the temporary appointment of Thane Knox due to the resignation of Kevin Willibey. Knox has a BS in Civil Engineering is an estimator for Asphalt Paving Contractor. He is currently a trustee at Pleasant View Church. Knox has installed filter strips and tree plantings.

*Larry Clemens moved to accept the temporary appointment request. Jim Cherry seconded and the motion carried.*

**Johnson County**

Johnson County District has requested assistance in preparing their FEMA needs. They are seeking clarification on if they should make an individual request or if they should include their request with their County's proposal.

*The SSCB concurred that Attorney General should assist Johnson County SWCD in making the determination as stated above.*

**B. CWI Requests – Amy Eizinger**

Brown (see attached request)

*Warren Baird moved to approve Brown's 06 CWI reallocation request to address flooding issues. Eddleman seconded and motion carried.*

Clark and Harrison (see attached requests)

*Discussion followed. Eddleman moved to Requests were tabled due to potentially pending assistance and programs. Baird seconded and motion carried.*

Blackford (see attached requests)

*Baird moved Blackford's request be approved. Eddleman seconded and the motion carried.*

Discussion followed regarding the nature of some District requests that appear to not have Supervisor input. The State Soil Conservation Board (SSCB) encourages District employees to engage their boards in CWI requests sent before the SSCB.

Dearborn (see attached request)

***Eddleman moved to accept Dearborn's request. Larry Clemens seconded and the motion carried.***

Hamilton (see attached request)

***Clemens moved to approve Hamilton's request. Bill Mann seconded and the motion carried.***

Martin (see attached request)

***Baird moved to accept Martin's request. Eddlemen seconded and the motion carried.***

Monroe (see attached request)

***Eddleman moved to approve Monroe's request. Jim Cherry seconded and the motion carried.***

Parke(see attached request)

***Eddleman moved to accept Parke's request. Mann seconded and the motion carried.***

Sullivan and Greene (see attached request)

***Cherry moved to approve Sullivan and Greene's requests. Clemens seconded and the motion carried.***

Dubois (see attached request)

***Eddleman moved to accept Dubois request. Baird seconded and the motion carried.***

## **C. SSCB Board Reports and Discussion**

### **1. SSCB Chairman's report**

Gentry mentioned that the SSCB would like to see the staff collect photos of flood damage as it relates to areas that had conservation in place vs. those places that did not have conservation practices in place. These photos could serve as a perfect teaching moment and assist in CREP and other legislative efforts this fall. These photos could help build the case for the financial reasons for conservation in addition to the environmental benefits

### **2. SSCB Sub-Committee Reports and Recommendations**

#### **a. Executive Committee Report and Recommendations – Nola Gentry**

##### **i. 2009 Proposed Budget –**

Due to the recent disaster efforts, the Executive Committee is not ready to discuss a proposed budget at this time

##### **ii. Biennial Plan of Work 2010-2011**

Although plans for listening sessions around the state have been delayed by disaster relief efforts, the SSCB hopes to resume their plans for the sessions this fall to get a feel for local needs before developing the SSCB Plan of Work. The purpose of the sessions will focus on the Clean Water Indiana budget and priorities. The SSCB plans to gather input from Districts, Partners and other stakeholders through multiple methods and opportunities. The executive committee will work to develop a plan before the August meeting to gather this input.

##### **iii. Emergency Conservation Assistance Program (ECAP)**

The SSCB developed the program to assist in gathering sound estimates and clearly defined needs that are necessary to receive additional federal allocations. ECAP has been designed to collect this information from SWCDs to get their local input on the assistance in their areas. Discussion followed regarding the proposed ECAP.

Discussion followed. The following changes to the original proposal were requested.

- add contiguous counties
- standards may be needed on items that do not have existing standards in technical guide
- clarification that includes forested lands
- cropping history will not be considered
- retroactive capacity
- technical assistance paragraph.

The SSCB is asking Districts to make a lot of tough calls on estimates and will need to remain flexible as programs develop to accommodate for the unknown. The Board wants to avoid a “band aid” approach. We want to get funds to SWCDs quickly but need SWCD to take time to assist in aiding farmers correctly.

Disaster counties may need to hold special board meetings to determine need and take action if needed. This is an opportune time to reach out to commissioners, surveyors, etc.

***Baird moved to accept the ECAP with the changes listed above. Cherry seconds and the motion carried.***

**b. CWI Grants Committee Report and Recommendations – Warren Baird**

**i. 2009 Presentation of Grant Program**

Sediment and Nutrient Reduction Grant (SNRG) Draft

Discussion followed on the clarification regarding urban projects priority will be based on impact.

***Eddleman moved to accept the SNRG program with adjustments. Clemens seconded and the motion carried.***

**c. District Capacity Committee Report and Recommendations – Bob Eddleman**

The first official Leadership Institute workshop was held in June and was a great success. The SSCB is encouraged to participate. Cris Goode will forward dates, times and registration information to the Board.

#### **IV. Division Report**

**A. Disaster Relief**

Tammy Lawson discussed state disaster relief plans. Andy Miller, ISDA Director has been reassigned to the Governor’s office to oversee disaster relief efforts. Ken Klemme will serve as ISDA’s acting director. Lawson noted Miller confirmed that additional funds will be allocated to assist with flood recovery.

Lawson stated that the state has researched disaster recovery such as that of Mississippi vs. Louisiana. In recovery efforts, challenges exist in identifying roles of state and federal agencies. Miller’s new role will assist in overcoming those challenges. The state projects that it may be 6-8 months before rehabilitation and recovery is complete.

Lawson also shared that she had been in discussions with DNR Division of Water and that DSC may need to assist with Dams and Levees as needed.

Lawson then discussed the Treasurer's Loan Program (TALP). She shared that the State Treasurer's office was very eager to develop a program to assist farmers in this time of need. The Treasurer's office rolled out the Treasurer's Conservation Assistance Program (T-CAP) in 4 short working days. T-CAP can assist farmers with the 25% match needed for most federal conservation programs.

**B. CREP Update – Tammy Lawson (Report attached)**

**C. Clean Water Indiana Grants – Amy Eizinger (Report attached)**

**D. Technical Support Update – Jerod Chew**

Technical Staff have been reassigned to assist in disaster priorities including IDEM assistance, T-CAP sign up and disaster assessment. Staff also participated in the recent NRCS field day regarding the disaster.

**E. District Support Update – Tammy Lawson**

The District Support Specialist team has also been redirected to assist central office with disaster relief efforts. Sara Slater-Atwater has been temporarily assigned as Disaster Relief Coordinator while the remaining DSSs will shift to cover her area. (map attached)

**V. Leadership Development Workgroup Update – Jennifer Boyle(No Report)**

**VI. Delivery System Workgroup Update – Jerod Chew (No Report)**

**VII. Funding Workgroup Update – Bob Eddleman (No Report)**

**VIII. Accountability Workgroup Update – Deb Fairhurst (No Report)**

**IX. Technology Workgroup Update – Jane Hardisty**

**X. Outreach Workgroup Update – Cris Goode**

ICP Web site will likely “re-launch” in the next month.

**XI. Conservation Partner Reports**

**A. DNR Report – Gary Langell-No Report**

**B. IDEM Report – Randy Braun (Report Attached)**

Rule 5 MOU edits being made and will soon set up meeting with the committee once ready.

**C. Purdue Report – Gary Steinhardt-No Report**

**D. IASWCD President's Report – Jennifer Boyle**

IASWCD Board plans to travel to NACD national conference. IASWCD has appointments with State Legislator and Chuck Conner.

**E. Farm Services Agency Report – Gail Peas-No Report**

**F. NRCS State Conservationist's Report – Jane Hardisty (Report attached)**

**G. SWCD Foundation Report – Christa Jones-No Report**

**XII. Public Comment**

CTIC tour coming up soon.

**XIII. Next Meeting: August 13, Time to be determined.**

**XIV. Adjourn 11:59 AM**

**Minutes recorded by: Cris Goode**